

# St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



**Mission Statement—St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.**

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**Term 1 Week 3**

16th February  
2010

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

## Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

Last year, after a long period of discussion and consultation, we produced a vision of what we wanted our pupils to become during their time at St Mary's. "Confident, Reflective, Risk-Taking, Lifelong Learners in a Catholic School".

When we developed our vision we were taking a holistic approach, that is, we were looking not just at the academic; but also the artistic, the physical and perhaps most importantly the spiritual.

If someone doesn't develop an appreciation of the importance of all four of these areas during their primary school years, then it is unlikely that they ever will.

We at St Mary's are lucky, in that we can openly cater for the spiritual component of the child.

People who have a solid spiritual component to their character will lead happier and more fulfilled lives: they will be confident they will be happy to reflect, they will be prepared to take risks, and they will be strong enough in their characters to be life long learners.

The debate that rages on National Standards is focused, sadly, only on the academic. I encourage you all when you look at your children to always see the bigger picture.

**Have a great week.**

**Regards, Mike Brosnahan**

## Looking Ahead: February

<b>Tuesday 23rd</b>	Parent Meeting 7pm
<b>Tonight!</b>	- Keep Ourselves Safe Programme
Wednesday 24th -	Mufti Day - gold coin donation
Friday 26th -	Assembly Room 7, 2.20pm
<b>March</b>	
Wednesday 10th	Paid Union Meeting 1pm
	PTA Meeting 7.30pm
Thursday 11th	BOT Meeting 7.30pm
12-15th	Kiwi Golf - whole school
Friday 12th	Assembly Room 6, 2.20pm

## Junior School Swimming Lessons



## Our Vision : Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

### Keeping Ourselves Safe

#### Parent Evening - Tonight at 7pm, School Foyer!

This term all of pupils will be taking part in the Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme.

This is a practical health unit which teaches young people techniques and strategies that identify potentially unsafe situations and how to safely handle these.

This programme is jointly taught by the school and our Police Education Officer Constable John Somerfield.

To further explain this programme John and the teachers will be holding a parent evening tonight **Tuesday 23rd** February beginning at **7pm** in the school foyer. As this programme differs from level to level and all of the pupils will be learning new information it would be great if we could have a good turn out at this event to better enable you to support your child's learning.

### Guitar Lessons - Reminder

Guitar class for intermediate guitarists (i.e. children who have two prior sessions) begins in Room 5 this Thursday at 3.10pm - 3.50pm for 5 weeks. There are still five places left - please enroll at the office to be sure of a place. Cost remains at \$15.

### Other Notices:

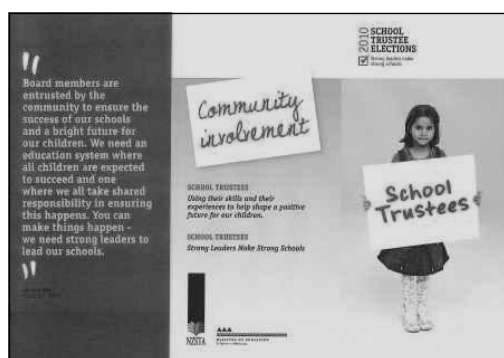
University of Otago College of Education Children's Choir, starting Thursday 25th Feb at 4pm. The choir is open to children aged 7-13years -details on noticeboard.

### Festival of the Plain - Bluelight Disco

Friday 5th March 6-8pm at the Mosgiel RSA, Church St, Primary School Age Children, \$2 entry, chips & drinks for sale.

### School Trustee Elections 2010

Nominations called 19th March - 27th April



### Paid Union Meeting 10th March 1pm

In accordance with Section 26 of the Employment Relations Act 2000, union members are entitled to two paid union meetings a year.

The Primary Teachers Union the NZEI has notified our Board of Trustees that a paid union meeting will be held for all union members on Wednesday 10th March, 1pm at Silverstream School.

All staff except for the Principal, Teachers Aides and the School Administrator will be attending this meeting. We would ask you to arrange for your children to return home, or be picked up and cared for on this afternoon.

If this position presents a very real hardship or difficulty for you then we will be able to supervise a limited number of pupils for the afternoon. **However I would ask that you let us know in writing if your**

### BOT - Uniform Policy

The Uniform Policy has had a '**Uniform Dress Code**' added to it to help clarify our school uniform expectations.

A copy of this is on the noticeboard in the foyer. Please let the Board know in writing any comments you may have before their next meeting on the 11th March.

### Mufti Day - Tomorrow! 24th Feb

Pupils may wear mufti to school and bring a gold coin or two donation. Proceeds from our Lent Mufti Day will be donated to the Missions Haiti Appeal following the destructive earthquake there last month. Thank you for your donations.

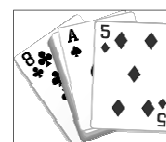
### Tissues!

We have quite a few children with colds and hay-fever at present. It would be great to have a supply of tissues for the children to use in their classrooms.

If families could please bring along a large box of tissues to share we would really appreciate it.

### Maths Tip

Playing cards are a fabulous Maths tool. You can play a lot of games with them e.g. Memory, Snap, adding two cards together etc. They can be found at The \$2 Shop or The Warehouse for \$2-\$3.



### Thought for the Week ...

*Great people are those who can make others feel that they, too, can become great.* Mark Twain